

Concerning "California and Western Medicine":

ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Fort Smith, Arkansas,
August 17, 1937.

To the Editor:—From a close acquaintance of now over three years with CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, I wish to express my appreciation for your most excellent journal. I take time each month to thoroughly peruse its columns; in fact, I have no doubt but that I do this more completely than many a member of your own Association.

For this Society, we also appreciate your courtesy in sending your publication to our American Medical Association delegates, thereby permitting them to acquire a close knowledge of the plans and activities of your great Association.

With kindest regards,

Very truly yours,

W. R. BROOKSHER.

Concerning the scope of chiropractic.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

San Francisco, California,
August 13, 1937.

Re: Louis LaVine, D.C.*

To the Editor:—The enclosed report, written by Special Agent Hunter on our experience in attempting to prosecute Louis LaVine, D.C., for practicing beyond the scope of his chiropractic certificate, is self-explanatory. The publication of this report may be advisable, in an effort to show the medical men of this State the difficulties encountered in attempting to curb the inroads made by the various cultists into the practice of medicine.

Very truly yours,

C. B. PINKHAM, M.D.,

Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Medical Examiners.

San Francisco, California,
August 9, 1937.

Re: Louis LaVine, D.C.

Dr. C. B. Pinkham,
Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Medical Examiners,
450 McAllister Street,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Doctor Pinkham:

Following my report of July 2, 1937, I attended, on July 27, 1937, the jury trial of Louis LaVine, D. C., in the Justice Court of Redwood Township, Los Gatos, A. H. Belle presiding.

LaVine was defended by M. James McGranaghan, D.C., and the case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney A. Andreuccetti.

Mrs. Frances Wallace, her husband Charles O., and her son, Charles F. Wallace, all testified concerning the setting of her arm by LaVine and his subsequent care. They also related how LaVine had prescribed, among other things, a half-ounce of Lloyd's Specific Cactus (Cactus Oil is in the United States Formulary).

G. R. Burtner, Pharmacist, testified he had filled the prescriptions and made copies of them. Both the original and copies were introduced in evidence.

Also testifying for the prosecution were Richard E. Graun, M.D., Joseph B. Josephson, M.D., and R. S. Kneeshaw, M.D. The three latter testified regarding the presence of Cactus Oil in Materia Medica and that the setting of a fractured arm was the practice of surgery. Doctor Graun, in addition, introduced an x-ray, showing both of Mrs. Wallace's arms; the arm set by LaVine showed osteoporosis, and it was the contention of prosecution witnesses that this condition was caused by the arm being immobilized over a period of time.

Ernest H. Mimms, D.C., who conducts the Basic Foods Inc., Los Angeles, testified that the "G. E. V" was animal and vegetable dehydrates and that "G. E. XX" was composed of a dehydrated brain and heart substance. Both of these had been furnished by LaVine to Mrs. Wallace.

* See also item in State Board of Medical Examiners in this issue, page 216.

Blaine Raney, D.C., now a teacher at the Standard Chiropractic College, testified that his school taught the setting of fractures.

As evidence of other acts on LaVine's part, William V. Voibles of the Los Gatos Pharmacy, testified for the prosecution and told of refusing to fill a prescription by LaVine written for a 50 per cent solution of phenol and glycerine for use in a child's ear.

Despite all prosecution testimony, which was introduced over a period of two days, on July 29, 1937, the jury, after taking three ballots and having considered the matter for half an hour, acquitted LaVine.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS P. HUNTER,
Special Agent.

Agent's Report of Investigation in Matter of Louis LaVine, D.C., on Charge of Violating Section 17, Medical Practice Act

Investigation of a complaint that Louis LaVine, Los Gatos licensed chiropractor, had violated the Medical Practice Act in practicing outside the limitations of his license, was made by the undersigned, and the following facts revealed:

On February 24, 1937, following a fall in which she hurt her arm, LaVine was called in to examine Mrs. Frances Wallace, 225 North Santa Cruz Avenue, Los Gatos. In the presence of witnesses, LaVine examined the arm at about 1:00 p. m. He prescribed hot and cold epsom salt packs for her arm and an injury in the occipital region, then returned about 5:00 p. m., when he applied a splint to the injured arm. An x-ray was not taken until March 5, 1937, at which time a San Jose physician reported the plate showed "a transverse linear fracture less than one centimeter above the wrist joint." LaVine changed to successively smaller splints on March 19 and 25.

On the day following his first call, LaVine left a prescription (in the form of a "memorandum"—without signature, but on the reverse of one of his advertisements) for a half-ounce of Lloyd's Specific Cactus, which he later told me were for Mrs. Wallace's nerves. LaVine also, during the course of treatment, prescribed "Vita-Minerals" and furnished Mrs. Wallace garlic-oil capsules. In addition, he administered electrotherapy in an effort to restore the use of the arm.

All of the above was verified by LaVine in conversation with me at the time of his arrest.

Section 7 of the Chiropractic Act, under which LaVine is licensed, defines the practice of chiropractic, and concludes, "... but shall not authorize the practice of medicine, surgery, osteopathy, dentistry or optometry, nor the use of any drug or medicine now or hereafter included in materia medica."

Respectfully,

T. P. HUNTER,
Special Agent.

Concerning a book, "To Drink or Not to Drink."

To the Editor:—Just received a book, "To Drink or Not to Drink," by Charles H. Durfee, Ph.D., from Longmans, Green and Company, New York and Toronto, price \$2, publication date September 1, 1937, with the request that I review it for CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, and send them a copy of the issue containing said review.

In this book Durfee is not worried about the drinker, but is worried about the drunkard. That is to say the one who practices "ascapism" via the alcohol route. This type he calls a problem drinker. He really helps such folks with the practical psychology and education, which is good medicine. This he has been doing on his little Rhode Island farm and in their homes—hence this excellent little book to give knowledge of his experience to a wider field.

He maintains that it is silly to expect bolts and bars to cure the dyspomania, because it is not a disease but a social symptom: a protest against life's rough goings. By showing up the ghost which the individual is trying to run away from the author frees the patient from his chronic fear and, presto, a new individuality—the real man appears! Not only doctors of medicine, but laymen and the in-betweens will read this book with profitable understanding. It will help many to understand one's own self—our worst enemy!

3780 Wilshire Boulevard. JOHN W. SHUMAN, M.D.